

East Fork Lewis River Partnership for clean water

East Fork Lewis River Partnership - Next Steps & Meeting Summary January 29, 2020, from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

The first [East Fork Lewis River Partnership](#) of 2020 was held on January 29, 2020, in La Center, Washington. Around forty partners, representing twenty different organizations attended the meeting. Attendees included private landowners, representatives from local, regional, and state government, and non-profits.

The purpose of this meeting was to connect with partners and continue building relationships for clean water, while providing a platform for information sharing. The meeting included updates on ongoing projects and programs in the East Fork Lewis River, and discussion on next steps for clean water implementation in 2020.



The [agenda](#) included presentations from the Clark County Clean Water Division, Clark Public Utilities District, Lower Columbia Estuary Partnership, Clark County Parks and Lands, Watershed Alliance of Southwest Washington, City of La Center, Washington State University Extension, Clark Conservation District, and Washington State Department of Ecology. All presentations are available on the [East Fork Lewis River Partnership webpage](#).

Presentations

- [Southwest Regional Office, TMDL Alternative Update, and Nonpoint Source Implementation](#) - Department of Ecology
- [Small Acreage Program Outcomes and Impacts](#) - Washington State University Extension
- [East Fork Lewis River Knotweed Control Partnership](#) - Clark Public Utilities
- [McCormick Creek Restoration](#) - Clark Public Utilities
- [East Fork Lewis River Projects and Assessments](#) - Lower Columbia Estuary Partnership
- [Legacy Lands Stewardship](#) - Clark County Public Works
- [Manley Creek Restoration](#) - Watershed Alliance of Southwest Washington
- [Schriber Reforestation](#) - Clark County Clean Water
- [Poop Smart Clark Pollution Identification and Correction](#) - Clark Conservation District

Next Steps

- **Nonpoint Implementation and Monitoring** - Ecology's Nonpoint Source Water Quality Specialists, [Shawn Ultican](#) and [Jennifer Riedmayer](#), are working in the East Fork Lewis River watershed. Shawn and Jennifer are focusing their proactive nonpoint source identification and monitoring work in Brezee, Jenny, Bolen, and McCormick Creeks, and Rock Creek North. If you are interested in conducting joint site visits and collaborating on nonpoint source outreach,

contact Shawn or Jennifer. Please remember – if you see something, say something! You can [report environmental issues](#) online.

- **Washington State University Extension** – WSU is planning to send around 1,000 mailers to East Fork Lewis River residents in 2020. These mailers will advertise [Small Acreage Program](#) workshops in 2020. There are Well and Septic Workshops and Agricultural BMP Workshops planned for the East Fork Lewis River this year.
- **FY 2021 Funding** – The [Draft Water Quality Funding Offer List and Intended Use Plan](#) was published in January 2020. There were four projects submitted for funding in the East Fork Lewis River this year. Two of these projects were recommended for funding. The Columbian newspaper highlighted these projects in the article, [State to provide \\$4M for six Clark County water projects](#).
- **FY 2022 Funding** – The next Water Quality Combined Funding Program cycle is expected to open in August 2020. Applications for FY 2022 Funding are due in October 2020. If you are interested in developing a project, reach out to [Leanne Whitesell](#), Ecology’s Southwest Regional Office Funding Coordinator or [Devan Rostorfer](#) to start the conversation. Tools and templates to support application development are available on the [East Fork Lewis River Partnership](#) webpage and on [Ecology’s general resources for water quality grants and loans](#) webpage. The FY 2022 Funding Guidelines have not been published. Reference the [FY 2021 Guidelines](#) to get started.
- **Clark County Watershed Website & New Signs** – Clark County recently launched a new [“Explore your watershed”](#) website for the public to learn about local water quality. [New watershed signs](#) also being implemented throughout Clark County’s watersheds. Explore the website and look for new clean water signage coming to a watershed near you.
- **Parking Lot** – From the meeting, there were only a few “parking lot” items for future discussion. Developing a survey for nonpoint source outreach was identified as one opportunity. There was additional discussion on best management practices for implementation of restoration projects on Clark County Legacy Lands, and ideas for invasive species management.

Thank you for your partnership!

Thank you to the following organizations for attending the January 2020 East Fork Lewis River Partnership meeting. **Local and Regional** - Clark County Clean Water, Clark County Parks and Lands, City of La Center, City of Battle Ground, City of Vancouver, Clark Public Utilities, Clark Conservation District, Lower Columbia Fish Recovery Board, and Lower Columbia Fish Enhancement Group. **State** - Washington Department of Natural Resources, Washington Department of Transportation, and Washington Department of Ecology. **Nonprofit** - Washington State University Extension, Ducks Unlimited, Lower Columbia Estuary Partnership, Watershed Alliance of Southwest Washington, Friends of the East Fork, Friends of Clark County, and Clark-Skamania Fly Fishers.

Until next time!

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- [Jennifer Riedmayer](#), Nonpoint Source Water Quality Specialist. (360) 407-6778
- [Lawrence Sullivan](#), Water Clean & Technical Assistance Unit Supervisor. (360) 407-6389